

Message Text

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44

ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

FMC-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 OFA-01 DLOS-04 AID-05

IGA-02 AGR-10 /049 R

DRAFTED BY EB/TT/MA:SVSMITH:EW

APPROVED BY EB/TT/MA:RKBANK

USDA:JMAXWELL

NEA/PAB:MGJONES

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R 280224Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL KARACHI

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

UNCLAS STATE 048689

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:EWWT, PK

SUBJECT: SHIPPING: GOP LASH BARGE RESTRICTION IN PL 480
SHIPPING TENDERS

1. WATERMAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY HAS ASKED THE DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANCE IN RESOLVING DIFFICULTIES IT HAS ENCOUNTERED WITH THE GOP'S SHIPPING TENDERS FOR TITLE I, PL 480 CARGOES. THESE TENDERS PROHIBIT THE USE OF LASH BARGES. WATERMAN REALIZES THAT SHIPMENT BY LASH BARGE WOULD NOT BE PRICE-COMPETITIVE FOR MOST SHIPMENTS. HOWEVER, THERE ARE OCCASIONS WHEN PARTIAL SHIPMENTS OCCUR AND WATERMAN DOES NOT WISH TO BE PREVENTED FROM COMPETING FOR THESE. ADDITIONALLY, WATERMAN BELIEVES THIS BLANKET PROHIBITION OF SHIPMENT BY THE LASH SYSTEM SETS A BAD PRECEDENT NOT ONLY FOR PAKISTAN BUT FOR OTHER COUNTRIES IN WHICH U.S. LINES MIGHT WISH TO USE THE LASH SYSTEM.

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2. USDA IS ASSISTING WATERMAN THROUGH THE PAKISTANI

EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. THROUGH THIS CHANNEL, WATERMAN HAS ALREADY REGISTERED ITS OPPOSITION TO THIS GOP POLICY AND HAS PASSED ON ITS REBUTTAL TO CERTAIN ARGUMENTS THE GOP HAD USED TO JUSTIFY ITS POLICY.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: UNLESS ADDRESSEES PERCEIVE OBJECTION, CONGEN KARACHI IS REQUESTED TO CONTACT MR. OSTERBERG, WATERMAN'S OPERATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE IN KARACHI AND MR. M. M. AGHA OF UNITED LINERS (WATERMAN'S AGENT) WHO ARE BOTH CONVERSANT WITH DETAILS OF THIS MATTER. CONGEN IS REQUESTED TO RENDER ALL APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE TO WATERMAN IN ITS EFFORT TO PERSUADE THE GOP TO DELETE THE LASH EXCLUSION FROM ITS PL 480 SHIPPING TENDERS. MR. OSTERBERG MAY BE REACHED THROUGH UNITED LINERS (PHONE NUMBER 230-306 OR 238-341). INGERSOLL

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